

REGISTRANT ALERT – RULE CHANGES

Registrants are subject to regulation defined as Rules, which includes:

- *The Accounting Profession Act* (The Act)
- The Accounting Profession Regulatory Bylaws, enabled through subsection 15(2) of the Act and requiring ministerial approval.
- The Accounting Profession Administrative Bylaws, enabled through subsection 15(1) of the Act and requiring Board approval.
- Rules of Professional Conduct (RPCs) and Rule Interpretations.
- The Accounting Profession Regulatory Board Rules, enabled through Bylaws, which require Board approval.
- The Accounting Profession Administrative Board Rules, enabled through Bylaws, which require Board approval.
- Discipline Committee Rules made pursuant to subsection 30(3) of the Act, which are approved by the Discipline Committee.

The Board has established the following objectives for preparing Bylaws and Board Rules in the context of our legislated duty to serve and protect the public:

CLARITY, UNDERSTANDABILITY	COMPLIANCE
Registrants will understand the intent and particulars of a bylaw upon careful reading.	Registrants are able to comply with an exercise of reasonable diligence.
ENFORCEABILITY	LIMIT REDUNDANCY WITH THE ACT
Enforcement mechanisms will meet the fairness and reasonableness of process principles and tests established by the courts.	Rules should be complimentary to the Act, not a duplication.

The Rule Amendments are summarized below and cover the following areas of change:



A. NEW CERTIFICATION PROGRAM – CPA PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM

On November 30, 2021 the CPA Saskatchewan Board approved Competency Map 2.0 – The Path Forward (CM 2.0). [Home | CPA Competency Map 2.0](#). CM 2.0 lays the foundation for the new CPA Professional Program.

Since that time, the CPA profession nationally has worked on the project to implement and operationalize the map, including determining at a more granular level where, when, and how the skills and competencies laid out in CM 2.0 will be learned and assessed. Further background about the new CPA Professional Program is available online at: [Introducing the CPA Professional Program](#)

In December 2024 a ‘Regulatory Policy Group’ was created to develop policies and requirements for the CPA Professional Program, consult with affected parties and regulators/governments, and identify regulatory requirements.

The Regulatory Policy Group focused on identifying and developing minimum regulatory standards that may require changes to governing documentation. The intention is for the minimum regulatory standards to be consistent across all provinces, territories and Bermuda (PTBs).

Protecting the public, maintaining standards, and preparing new CPAs for their careers continue to be fundamental to the certification program, whether learners qualify under the current or new program. The new program diagram is as follows:



*Those pursuing careers in public accounting must pass the Licensure version of CPA Core and pass the Licensure version of PFE I.

**This work experience can be completed before the Foundational Development module.

1. ENTRANCE

The introduction of the definition of an accounting major and the related requirements for the Knowledge Assessment are new entrance requirements. Accounting majors may be exempt from the Knowledge Assessment. The Knowledge Assessment is outside of the CPA Professional Program and there is no limit on the number of attempts. However, individuals who are not successful on the Knowledge Assessment after three attempts must obtain the equivalent of an accounting major from a post-secondary institution, take a specified preparatory course, or withdraw for a period of one year before another attempt.

Applicants who are at the Knowledge Assessment stage are required to declare compliance with academic integrity policies; however, their time limit in the program has not commenced.

All other entrance requirements, including minimum GPA and the requirement for a degree are consistent with the current CPA PEP.

2. EDUCATION AND EXAMINATIONS

There are no significant changes to the underlying intention related to education and examinations. Rule amendments are proposed to ensure consistency with the terminology used, such as module or examination names, in the CPA Professional Program.

The time limit for the CPA Professional Program commences at the Foundational Development module and is seven (7) years.

All candidates must pass each module prior to challenging the related examination. Candidates have three attempts to pass each module and each examination. Options to have failed attempts re-assessed are available.

3. EXPERIENCE

There are significant changes to the underlying intention related to experience requirements.

Candidates are required to obtain work experience of at least 24 months of duration under the supervision of a mentor. There are a minimum number of two (2) reports that a candidate must have approved by the profession; at least 16 months of work experience must be pre-approved by the profession to be recognized.

All candidates must be in the same training environment as their mentor.

Reporting work experience will be focused on task statements with declaration-based responses. All responses are subject to a verification process by the profession. All documentation to support the response to the task statement must be retained by the candidate and the mentor.

4. INTERNATIONALLY TRAINED ACCOUNTANTS

All existing agreements for international reciprocity will continue to be recognized by the profession.

Amendments related to Internationally trained accountants include the exemption from the Knowledge Assessment for those applicants who have an international accounting designation from the full IFAC member body or an executed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with CPA Saskatchewan.

5. LICENSURE

Candidates interested in obtaining a licence to practice professional accounting in Saskatchewan after attaining membership must complete the CPA Core + Licensure module and related examination.

6. LOCATION OF REGISTRATION

All candidates must register in the PTB in which they reside.

7. TRANSITION

The final Common Final Examination will be offered in September 2028. All practical experience accumulated must be reported and verified by the profession to be recognized on transition. All candidates

must transition to the CPA Professional Program by no later than December 31, 2028. A candidate in the CPA PEP or PER may elect to transition their education/examination or experience earlier than December 31, 2028. A candidate that elects to transition may be provided up to three (3) additional years to complete the CPA Professional Program.

A candidate that has not elected to transition into the CPA Professional Program by December 31, 2028 will be involuntary withdrawn from the CPA PEP and PER and cancelled as a candidate.

8. OTHER

Related definitions and interpretations have been updated for consistency with the CPA Professional Program terminology.

B. CHANGES TO FIRM REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

All members who provide professional accounting or other regulated services to clients in Saskatchewan must apply and be approved to be licensed and/or register a firm, as applicable. CPAs from other provinces must register as a member of CPA Saskatchewan when they use the designation in Saskatchewan. These members are referred to as affiliate members. Affiliate is a member/firm practicing as 'Primary' in another province. Affiliate members register an affiliate firm when they have clients in Saskatchewan. We interpret "clients in Saskatchewan" as the clients are based out of Saskatchewan, not the engagement work or report is issued in Saskatchewan.

1. TIMING OF BILLING CYCLE FOR AFFILIATE FIRMS

Licensed affiliate members and firms must complete two renewal cycles at two separate points of time, as do licensed primary members and firms. However, a licensed affiliate member and firm has the oversight of being primarily regulated in another province and CPA Saskatchewan has mechanisms to confirm their standing and compliance in that other province. Affiliate renewal for that reason is typically limited to confirming the status in their primary province and payment of fees.

Starting April 1, 2027, affiliate firms (which includes licensing renewal) will renew at the same time as their affiliate member renewal.

2. MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTING

With the introduction of CM 2.0, the previous six (6) technical competencies evolved into 10 technical topic areas, grouped under "Specific" requiring higher level of proficiency. The definition of practice of the profession links to the competency map and forms the base for CPD reporting and the requirements to register a firm.

CM 2.0 identifies that all members must present with strong skills in the use of technology. Further, data and data analytics is a specific technical topic area. In addition, the definition of management accounting has evolved to the term "Management decision-making and information (data) systems/technology". The Rule changes update the definition of management accounting to include advice related to tools and technologies. Management accounting is an 'other regulated service' requiring firm registration.

3. LOCATION AND DESIGNATED PRACTICE LEADER

The Rules related to when a firm from another PTB have been simplified to require registration in Saskatchewan when the client is located in Saskatchewan or the engagement work or a report states Saskatchewan as the location of service delivery.

Each firm location must declare a designated practice leader.

C. REVISIONS IN LANGUAGE RELATED TO CPA CANADA'S FUTURE ROLE

CPA Canada develops the current CPA PEP and administers the national examinations. Moving forward, each region is developing the CPA Professional Program and national assessments will be administered for the national examinations. The Rules are amended to remove references to CPA Canada.

Further, in response to the [Independent Review Committee on Standards Setting in Canada \(IRCSS\) paper](#) released in March 2023, the development, review and approval of professional standards will be moved at some future point to a separate entity. Meaning, there may be more than one national organization that supports the Canadian CPA profession.

D. CLARITY ON THE PROCESS FOR CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS

CPA Saskatchewan, through the Registrar, regulatory committees or the Board, can assess conditions or impose restrictions on registrations or licences. The Rules had separated the process for assessing conditions on registration and licences. The amendments combine the regulation into the Regulatory Bylaws for both registration and licensure for clarity and consistency.

A registrant (candidate, member, or firm) may be assessed and agree to conditions as a result of not satisfying a minimum regulation. A condition allows the registrant to self-correct before more serious, or public, consequences such as a restriction occur.

E. CLARITY IN LANGUAGE FOR UNDERSTANDING AND ENFORCEMENT

Any trigger to substantively change Rules, such as the New Certification Program noted above, results in a fulsome review of all regulation at CPA Saskatchewan. This resulted in numerous other changes, such as:

- Updating the language in Bylaw series 16 (Licensing) to align with the language used in Bylaw series 14 (Firm registration), related to the authority of the Registrar. Congruent language aids in ease of understanding and enforcement.
- Adding a Regulatory Bylaw for sole practitioner firms if its only member is suspended. This requirement was previously in a Board Rule.
- Clarifying the timing of the late fee warning and assessment under the non-disciplinary enforcement process.
- Updating the distribution of publications of notices and reports to a broader audience.
- Updating definitions, numbering and grammar throughout.